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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Music Faculty Members To Present Lecture-Recital On Schumann's 'Liederkreis' Feb. 27

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly music faculty members Katherine Arthur, soprano, and Susan Azaret Davies, pianist, will present a lecture-recital on Robert Schumann's "Liederkreis," Op. 39, at 11 a.m. Feb. 27 in Room 218 of the Davidson Music Center on campus.

Schumann wrote the "Liederkreis," a cycle of 12 songs, in 1840 based on poems by Joseph von Eichendorff. In describing the music to his wife-to-be, Schumann referred to the songs as "my most romantic music ever, containing much of you in it."

Arthur earned a master's degree in voice from UC Santa Barbara, where she studied with Elisabeth Mannion and Michael Ingham. She appeared as a soloist with the Southwest Chamber Music Ensemble, Santa Barbara Oratorio Society and Pacific Repertory Opera.

Arthur has been a featured guest artist in Europe, recorded works for Austrian Radio and performed for many international music festivals and opera companies. A certified Alexander Technique teacher, she began teaching voice at Cal Poly in the fall.

Davies earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in piano performance and piano accompanying from USC, where she studied with Carol Stewart and Gwendolyn Koldofsky. She enjoys an active career as a singer and a pianist.

Davies' festival appearances include the Oregon Bach Festival, Cabrillo Festival and San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival. She served as music director and pianist for the Educational Opera Association of Los Angeles, which won an Emmy for its KCET public television special "Opera for Children."

In 2000, Davies was the accompanist-coach for the California State University Summer Arts program at Fresno State, and in 2001 she played in a trio recital at Carnegie's Weill Hall in New York. Davies recently appeared in the Festival Internacional de Musica de Morelia (Mexico) in the Ramo de Flores Vocal Quartet.

She is the choir director and organist at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Pismo Beach, teaches piano at Cal Poly and accompanies the Cuesta Master Chorale.

The free recital is open to the public and is sponsored by the Cal Poly Music Department and College of

Liberal Arts. For more information, contact the Music Department at 756-2406.

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(NOTE TO EDITORS: For an electronic image of Katherine Arthur, please contact Jo Ann Lloyd at 756-1511 or jlloyd@calpoly.edu.)

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